



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
 4700 Ramona Boulevard
 Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



January 21, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
 County of Los Angeles
 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
 Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL GANG INFORMATION NETWORK

This letter serves as a response to the motion by Supervisor Gloria Molina (requested at the meeting of January 13, 2004, Syn. S-1), which assigned the Sheriff's Department to report back on the purpose of the Los Angeles Regional Gang Information Network (LARGIN) and how it will be utilized.

The concept of LARGIN is to create a multi-jurisdictional street gang-clearing house. It will be staffed by law enforcement officers and analysts from various jurisdictions, which will provide daily updated intelligence data and statistical information to investigators, street tactical officers, and agency executives charged with attacking the gang problem.

Part of the LARGIN concept is to gain agreement of all local law enforcement agencies to input gang information into the CalGang system, a state sponsored gang intelligence network. Presently, there are five major law enforcement agencies ready to participate in this network. Analysts will then be able to evaluate gang crimes and trends without regard to jurisdiction. Currently, not all law enforcement inputs into CalGang and there is no analysis of relationships and trends between jurisdictions. This analysis capability and enhanced intelligence information will be a critical tool in impacting the level of gang crime.

One other aspect of LARGIN will be its deconfliction capabilities. Currently, narcotics investigators have the ability to contact the Los Angeles County Regional Criminal Information Clearinghouse (LA CLEAR) for real time intelligence about specific locations. If an investigation points to a specific location, the detective can contact LA CLEAR to learn if any other investigations are focused on the same location. Planned

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warrant services can be posted so other investigators are aware, and dangerous situations of simultaneous warrant services in close proximity to each other are eliminated. LARGIN will give gang investigators this same capability.

Gang members respect no jurisdictional boundaries. A gang member that commits heinous crimes at LAPD's Hollenbeck area is just as likely to go a block or two away to the Sheriff's East Los Angeles area to continue his criminal acts. Gang experts recognize the necessity to coordinate a countywide anti-gang strategy between various law enforcement agencies on gang investigations. LARGIN is the tool to accomplish that goal.

Enhancements to the CalGang system are necessary to make LARGIN a success. The creation of a mapping module is currently planned, as well as enhancements to the case management module. These enhancements will allow gang investigators and law enforcement managers to utilize all of this information to be proactive in assigning resources in an environment of difficult economic times.

Presently assigned to LARGIN are: one analyst, one Sheriff's Sergeant, and one LAPD Detective. LARGIN officially became operational on December 1, 2003. The goal is to have the system fully updated and staffed by April 2004.

The funds requested will help finance one-time costs such as the design/engineering work required to integrate the mapping and case management enhancements, as well as equipment. Additional funding is being supplied for the required analytical support via block grant funds through the Los Angeles County Chiefs of Police.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact Captain Peter Amico, or Sergeant Steve Newman of Safe Streets Bureau, at (310) 603-3100.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leroy D. Baca". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "L" and a cursive "Baca".

LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF